

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 176975
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00
INRE-00 IO-13 SAA-01 ISO-00 /070 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:MACASEY:DWL
APPROVED BY NEA/ARN:MDRAPER
NEA/ARN:WNHOWELL (INFO)
NEA/ARP:BBODINE(INFO)
NEA/IRN:MGREEN(INFO)
-----003565 132032Z /21

O P 131944Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USINT BAGHDAD IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DOHA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MANAMA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT PRIORITY
USLO RIYADH PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY
USINT HAVANA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 176975

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 176975

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PERP, XF, IZ

SUBJECT: DE BORCHGRAVE INTERVIEW WITH SADDAM HUSSEIN

REF: BAHGDAD 1403

1. JULY 10 NEWSWEEK CARRIED DE BORCHGRAVE INTERVIEW PRECEDED BY SHORT LEAD-IN ARTICLE HIGHLIGHTING ALLEGED IRAQ-USSR RIFT. NOTING THAT APPARENT IRAQI DISENCHANTMENT WITH NEW SOVIET AGGRESSIVENESS HAD LED TO IRAQI ATTEMPTS TO DIVERSIFY WEAPONS SOURCES AND ESTABLISHED A MORE NON-ALIGNED POSITION, ARTICLE BALANCED REPORT OF IRAQI HARD-LINE STANCE AGAINST MOSCOW WITH MENTION OF IRAQ'S DISINCLINATION TO MOVE INTO THE WESTERN CAMP, AS WELL AS IRAQ'S MAJOR DISAGREEMENTS WITH THE U.S. AND MODERATE ARAB GOVERNMENTS.

2. PUBLISHED TEXT OF INTERVIEW CLOSELY PARALLELED THAT OUTLINED IN REFTEL, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF SEVERAL OMISSIONS. NEWSWEEK FEATURED SADDAM'S WARNING ON NEW SOVIET AGGRESSIVENESS, AS WELL AS HIS STATEMENT THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD NOT BE SATISFIED UNTIL THE WHOLE WORLD BECOMES COMMUNIST, BUT FAILED TO MENTION THAT HE ALSO SAID CRITICISM OF THE USSR DOES NOT PORTEND CHANGE.

3. NEITHER SADDAM'S WARNING TO THE IRANIANS AND OTHERS ON DHOFAR, NOR HIS REACTION TO QADDAFI'S REVOLUTIONARY PLANS FOR THE GULF APPEARED IN THE INTERVIEW. REFERENCES TO THE CUBANS WERE ALSO DELETED.

4. ON RELATIONS WITH THE U.S., INTERVIEW DID NOT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 176975

ELABORATE AT LENGTH, BUT MERELY NOTED SADDAM'S AGREEMENT THAT MISPERCEPTIONS COULD BE AVOIDED WITH NORMAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, AND HIS MENTION OF U.S. MIDDLE EAST POLICY AS AN OBSTACLE TO FURTHER PROGRESS ON THAT SCORE. SADDAM'S DESIRE FOR ACTION FROM THE U.S. ON THE MIDDLE EAST, RATHER THAN WORDS ALSO MADE THE FINAL VERSION.

5. ON IRAQI AID TO EUROPEAN TERRORISTS, SADDAM NOTED PALESTINIANS MIGHT BE TRAINING OTHERS ABROAD, BUT DENIED IRAQI GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT IN ANY DOMESTIC ACTIVITIES OF THIS NATURE. PUBLISHED TEXT DID NOT ELABORATE FURTHER ON THIS ISSUE.

6. COMMENT: EXCISED PORTIONS REVEAL EITHER NEWSWEEK OR IRAQI RELUCTANCE TO NAME NAMES, AS WELL AS AN ATTEMPT TO SOFT PEDAL THE BUSINESS AS USUAL ASPECT OF IRAQ'S RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIETS. OMISSION OF SPECIFICS PRODUCED A SOMEWHAT FLAT, TWO-DIMENSIONAL PICTURE OF SADDAM AND IRAQI POLICY, WHICH COULD HAVE BENEFITTED FROM A FULLER RENDITION OF DE BORCHGRAVE'S INTERVIEW. FULL TEXT OF ARTICLE BEING POUCHED TO ADDRESSEES. CHRISTOPHER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE176975
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MACASEY:DWL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780287-0981
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780763/aaaacawm.tel
Line Count: 115
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b640da75-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2017144
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DE BORCHGRAVE INTERVIEW WITH SADDAM HUSSEIN
TAGS: PEPR, SOPN, XF, IZ, UR, (HUSSEIN, SADDAM)
To: BAGHDAD
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b640da75-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014